GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4557
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2009
GOODS WAGONS OF INDIAN RAILWAYS
Saroj Shri Tufani

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether some goods wagons of Indian Railways are lying with the Pakistan Railways;

(b) if so, the total number of such wagons;

(c) whether the Railways have asked the Government of Pakistan to return these wagons;

(d) if so, the reaction of the Government of Pakistan thereto;

(e) whether the Government of Pakistan have sent the wagons of Pakistan Railways instead of Indian Railways back to India;

(f) if so, the number thereof; and

(g) the manner in which these are different from the wagons of Indian Railways?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS(SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA)

(a) & (b): Yes,Madam.There is regular exchange of goods traffic between India and Pakistan. With the result, some wagons of Indian Railways are with the Pakistan Railways and some wagons of Pakistan Railways are with the Indian Railways at any given point of time. Number of wagons of one country available in the other country on any given day depends on the level of traffic between the two countries and keeps changing on a daily basis.

(c) to (f): Indian Railways wagons are returned by Pakistan as a matter of routine. In accordance with existing agreement governing rail traffic between the two countries, each country tries to maintain zero balance of net holding of wagons belonging to each other. Presently, the periodicity of 30 days is being followed. In case it is not achieved, hire charges are leviable against the railway holding wagons in excess.

(g) Pakistan Railway wagons used by Pakistan for Indo−Pakistan rail traffic generally have four wheels each whereas Indian Railway wagons have eight wheels each.